

**WESTBOUND INTERSTATE 80 CLOSED TO TRUCKS FOR DEBRIS REMOVAL WEDNESDAY**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is alerting truckers that westbound Interstate 80 (I-80) will be closed to truck traffic at the State Route 20 Junction, Wednesday, November 5, 2008. A detour will be available. The closure is necessary to remove debris from a previous accident.

Westbound truck traffic will be detoured at the State Route 20 Exit #161 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. and will continue west on State Route 20 to Grass Valley. From Grass Valley, truck traffic will continue south on State Route 49 to Bell Road in Auburn, and then back to I-80. The detour is approximately 68 miles in length and will add approximately 40 additional minutes of travel time.

Westbound vehicular traffic will not be detoured, as in the past. The necessary work will be done between 9 a.m. and noon while the #2 lane in the work area is closed to motorists.

The debris removal will be occurring in an area known as "Three-Mile Grade", half-way between the Secret Town Exit and Colfax. The lane closure is necessary so the contractor, RAH Environmental out of Sacramento, can remove debris from the shoulder area as safely as possible.

The work will be occurring in an area of I-80 with steep downhill grades and very narrow shoulders. The road closure and lane closure are necessary so workers can do the work during daytime hours and minimize the exposure of personnel to live traffic.

The California Highway Patrol will be on hand to direct truck traffic at the State Route 20 detour. Motorists can expect delays and are advised to use caution when traveling through the work area and detour, and to "Slow For the Cone Zone".

For further information, please contact Shelly Chernicki, Public Information Officer at (530) 741-5474 or by e-mail at shelly_chernicki@dot.ca.gov.

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